

Nigel nodded again, still grinning like a galoot. 'GOING TO MILTON KEYNES?'
 'Nick faldo, nick faldo,' said Nigel affirmatively. 'POOR THING! IT'S A BLOODY NIGHT-MARE!' yelled the buggy-driver. 'HOP IN, I'LL GIVE YEZ A RIDE.'

When Nigel hesitated, the man shouted, 'DON'T WORRY MATE. WE DON'T CASTRATE FOREIGNATORS NO MORE!' He laughed. 'I MEAN - THIS IS NINETEEN SEVENTY-EIGHT!' And he roared at his own joke.

Nigel, half-way on to the back of the buggy, tripped and fell painfully against the wood face-first with the shock of it. The was no mistaking what the man had said, the pinhead seemed to have bellows for lungs.

With a cluck from the man and a rattle from the harness they set off for Milton Keynes at a trot. Nigel rolled over, looking up at the back of the driver's neck. The criss-crossed scars of a convict's flogging corded above his collar; Nigel followed a stray one right to the back of his ear.

Nobody flogged anybody in 1978. Yet this was Australia, there were convicts, so where the hell was he?

'WE'RE ABOUT THREE LEAGUES OUTTA MILTON KEYNES,' shouted the driver over his shoulder.

Yeah, but where's that? wondered Nigel. He sat up casting confusedly about him at the pleasant farmlands, his brain a curdled apprehensive moosh. A couple of hours passed. Nigel remained too mooshy to think of questioning the driver until it was too late. As they approached - then began to encounter - the bustle of the obviously sprawling town of Milton Keynes, he became less and less eager to find out where he'd landed after all. The driver was right: Milton Keynes was indeed a nightmare. Nigel was sickened by what he saw.

I want to get *back*, he wailed inside, I just want to get *out* of here. This is *not* 1978. This is *hell*!

But this was not hell, nor was he out of it. The cart crunched over real gravel, the screams Nigel heard came from real agony, the howls from undeniable anguish, and beneath the ordinary aches and bruises and scratches about his body Nigel found within him the dreadfully mundane certitude that around him lay not even another reality but the only one that had ever been possible. The horrifying had become the norm. His own world was a dream - and the dream was finished. He was awake.

READER SURVEY

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1. Which of the three excerpts did you enjoy most?

- a. *Red Dust*
- b. *Hearts, Hands and Voices*
- c. *The Weird Colonial Boy*

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3. If not, why?

- a. too expensive
- b. you'll wait for the paperback
- c. you'll get it at the library
- d. other _____

4. What influences you most when buying books by authors?

- a. The book's price
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5. Which newspaper(s) do you read regularly? _____

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- a. none b. 0-5 c. 6-10 d. 11-15
- e. 16-25 f. over 25

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- e. 15 or over

9. What is your profession? _____

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Thank you so much for responding to our survey. Please choose one of the paperbacks below that you would like if you are one of the first 50 respondents.

- a. *New Worlds 1* edited by David Garnett
- b. *Hearts, Hands and Voices* by Ian MacDonald
- c. *And Disregards the Rest* by Paul Voermans

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If you do not wish to cut a page out of your copy of *Interzone*, photocopies of the survey are welcome.

PREMIER ISSUE

SF/FANTASY
 PREVIEW

SPRING 1993

GOLLANCZ

Victor Gollancz has been a leader in sf and fantasy publishing for 40 years - many readers first discovered the sf genre by way of the celebrated yellow-jackets. Now the yellow-jackets have gone, but the imprint that published Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov, Frank Herbert, Ursula Le Guin, Ian Watson, William Gibson, Bob Shaw, Greg Bear and Terry Pratchett is as committed as ever to publishing the very best sf and fantasy from new writers as well as from the big names.

Interzone, as the leading journal of sf and fantasy, has the most sophisticated readers in those genres - and a similar publishing commitment. So it seemed right to us to give *Interzone* readers a sneak preview of some new Gollancz titles.

Three times a year, you'll find in the *Preview* excerpts from some of our most exciting up-and-coming writers as well as glimpses of the new work of well-established authors. We're eager to hear your comments on these excerpts and to see if they are a helpful tool in choosing your reading material.

I hope you will enjoy this first *Preview* and that you agree the authors included are some of the most exciting contemporary writers working. And if you turn to the last page in our insert, you'll find a reader survey and a chance to receive a free book simply by supplying us with your thoughts.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Evans
 Richard Evans
 Publishing Director

THIS PREMIER OF THE
 GOLLANCZ *SF/FANTASY PREVIEW* FEATURES THE WORK OF:

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